

Kirkpatrick,
Lyman B.

Sec. 4.01.2 The Real C.I.A.

Org. 1 Newport Discussion Club

Orig. filed under Org

Front Page Edit Page Other Page
NEWSPORT, R. I.
NEWS

E. 12,522

MAR 15 1968

2

Newport Daily News, Friday, March 15, 1968

Spy Agency's Former Chief Tells How CIA Gets Its Data

A former boss of the Central Intelligence Agency, now a professor of political science at Brown University, spoke last night to the Newport Discussion Club in the Newport YMCA.

Prof. Lyman B. Kirkpatrick, the author of "The Real CIA," came up through the Office of Strategic Service (OSS) during World War II, and got in on the ground floor of the CIA when it was organized in 1946. Before retiring in 1964, Prof. Kirkpatrick served as a division chief, inspector general and executive director of the agency.

After 18 years with the CIA, Kirkpatrick said, he was "astounded and shocked" when he left the agency and found hostile opinion about the agency was commonplace. This, he said, was why he wrote his book.

In the early 1950s, Kirkpatrick was in charge of the CIA's "foreign collection" or gathering of intelligence information from foreign agents.

Kirkpatrick said Russian security was especially tight at a time when much intelligence had to be ferreted out of her. He said Gen. Walter Biddel Smith, a "tough" CIA executive director, invited the Joint Chiefs of Staff to a CIA briefing. The Joint Chiefs asked the CIA how long it would take to get the necessary information, and the CIA's answer was "unsatisfactory."

To put a major dent in Russian security, a windowless cement building was erected by the CIA in West Berlin, near the East Berlin border, with an impressive array of aerials and electronic gadgets on the roof. Communist officials, satisfied that the Americans had simply established another "post," relaxed.

A quarter-mile tunnel was dug under the border and the dirt was stored in the building for later removal. The tunnel, Kirkpatrick said, led beneath a major highway in East Berlin. Major telephone cables were located beneath the highway. The CIA tapped and taped everyone of them. Kirkpatrick said an "underground telephone exchange" room was carved out beneath the highway. He said the tapes provided invaluable intelligence for some time before water damage brought East German telephone crews to dig up the section of highway. The last of the tapes were removed and the tunnel was blown up. Kirkpatrick said it took the CIA another year to finish evaluating the remaining tapes.

Kirkpatrick also spoke of U-2 flights over Russia. He said the U-2 was the brainchild of Richard Bissell, now vice president of United Aircraft in Hartford, Conn., who suggested putting a jet engine in a glider. He said the U-2 "long flew with impunity over Russia." He said cameras carried by the U-2s 15 miles high over

Russia were able to photograph aircraft on the ground so clearly that CIA engineers were able to reproduce the planes to their exact specifications.

Kirkpatrick said the U-2 made a "come back" during the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1961-62. By Sept., 1962, daily flights were made over Cuba, whenever the cloud cover was less than 50 per cent. On Oct. 14, 1962, the U-2 got positive proof the Russians were installing offensive missiles at San Cristobal.

The CIA was created along with several other departments by the 1947 National Security Act and the agency acts on the authority of the National Security Council, Kirkpatrick said. The "father" of the CIA, he said, was William J. (Wild Bill) Donovan of New York, director of the OSS in World War II.

The CIA, Kirkpatrick said, comprises four "directorates": 1. Intelligence, in which a vast army of Ph. D.'s — experts in every field — work 24-hours a day to assess intelligence information. They handle up to 100,000 items each day. 2. Science and Technology, in which scientists and engineers develop equipment such as the U-2 plane and observation satellites. 3. Overseas Directorate, which directs the gathering of data from agents. 4. Administration, which handles the security, logistics and personnel.

Kirkpatrick said the CIA, when recruiting spies, looks for a person who lives in the country they want him to work in, has access to top secret information (not just wastebaskets), and has high linguistic skills.

He said the CIA has 500 Russian language experts and 100 experts in Chinese. He said the agents, usually males, are completely checked out and must submit to a "voluntary" polygraph test.

Kirkpatrick said the CIA's "subsidy" of the National Student Association, "exposed by Ramparts magazine," was useful in that it "balanced" world youth conferences in Helsinki and other cities, rendering the conferences "less than a total success for the Communist youth groups, which generally try to dominate the meetings."

The "Bay of Pigs Disaster," Kirkpatrick said, was caused by an intelligence malassess-ment of the number of people needed and of the loyalty of the Castroites. He said "the President should not have taken the blame, nor should have (John) Foster Dulles." Kirkpatrick said if the CIA made no more mistakes, it would worry him. It would mean the agency wasn't being aggressive enough, he said.

Kirkpatrick said the recent Tet offensive in Vietnam was another intelligence failure, but "it was not exclusively a U.S. failure." Kirkpatrick hung much

Continued

of the blame on the South Vietnamese. He said the United States, in Vietnam, has a "difficult enemy" and a "difficult ally," and he "doesn't know which is the more difficult." He said he does not think the war can be successfully fought "on a cooperative basis," with the South Vietnamese.

Kirkpatrick said an immediate American withdrawal from Vietnam would be "disastrous" but "we could yield to an international force, which would remain until a coalition government could be formed."

Kirkpatrick said he thought the "Pueblo Affair was handled quite well." He said the ship could have been taken back by force, but not the crew. He said release of the crewmen would probably come only after the North Koreans got all the information they possibly can get out of the men. Kirkpatrick said the Pueblo, in his opinion, "was sent in there after something very important - I don't know what it was, and I don't care to know."

Kirkpatrick spoke on Russian intelligence efforts in the United States and said, "They could get most of it (the information) by backing a truck up to the Government Printing Office ... most of the rest they could read in the newspapers."

The professor delineated the job of the CIA from the job of the FBI, which functions within the United States. He said the CIA's work is directed abroad.

In the three years he has taught at Brown University, Kirkpatrick said, he has never met with "a single discourtesy from the students." As a matter of fact, Kirkpatrick said, he "felt kind of left out" when Brown students protested CIA recruitment on campus and didn't even visit his office. He estimated about one-per cent of the Brown students are "activists," although this does not mean the rest support the government's policies.

Kirkpatrick said, "If our policy-makers were the best informed in the world (through intelligence reports) war could become too costly...and there could be a possibility of peace."

The Discussion Club elected new officers. They were William R. Michael, president; Frank J. Dwyer, vice president; John N. McAskill Jr., treasurer; and George N. Sarantos, secretary. McAskill and Sarantos served during the past year and were reelected. Elected to the executive committee were Dr. Anthony A. Caputi, Thomas D. Dunn and Donald T. Gibbs, all of whom served during the past year and Edward Goldberg.



FORMER CIA BOSS SPEAKS HERE — Prof. Lyman B. Kirkpatrick, center, former executive director of the CIA and now a professor of political science at Brown University, addressed Newport Discussion Club last night. With him are, from left, William R. Michael, who was elected president of the club, Bruce Henderson, assistant to Prof. Kirkpatrick, and Herbert Epstein, outgoing president. (Daily News Photo)